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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventors: Brian K. Tanner

SC/Serial No.: 10/629,405

Confirm. No.: 7231

Filed: July 28, 2003

Title: METHOD FOR SPINDLE BEARING FRICTION  
ESTIMATION FOR RELIABLE DISK DRIVE  
STARTUP OPERATION

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 2837

Examiner: Miller, Patrick L.

Customer No. 23910

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 11, 2004

(Attorney Signature)

Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732

Signature Date: November 11, 2004

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments**

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 5 and 6, and amend claims 1, and 7-17, as shown in the listing of claims beginning of the following page.